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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5679

INFO RUEHWH/WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS PRIORITY

RUEAWJC/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC PRIORITY

RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1561

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

RUCNDTA/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1959

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

RHMFISS/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL PRIORITY

UNCLAS BOGOTA 004194

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

FOR DRL/MLGA LYNN SICADE, ALYSON GRUNDER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [CO](#)

SUBJECT: COLOMBIA TO OPPOSE IRAN NO ACTION MOTION ON HUMAN
RIGHTS IN UN THIRD COMMITTEE

REF: A. STATE 118278

[¶](#)B. BOGOTA 4120

[¶](#)11. (SBU) On November 12 and 13, Post delivered all points in reftel to Director of U.S. and Canadian Affairs Patricia Cortes and Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Adriana Mejia, urging a review of previous GOC policy to abstain on no action motions. Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Adriana Mejia told us on November 20 that the GOC would oppose the Iran and other no action motions on specific country human rights resolutions in UN Third Committee.

[¶](#)12. (SBU) Mejia said the GOC decision--taken only after a difficult analysis by Foreign Minister Jaime Bermudez--represented a major departure from Colombia's traditional policy of abstention on no action motions. Colombia made the change to be more consistent with its own position of openness towards international scrutiny on human rights issues. Mejia said the GOC took the decision knowing that Colombia may face a serious risk of retaliation from Iran and others as a result of the policy change.

BROWNFIELD